

Twenty-nine American Princesses; Some Found Marriage a Failure

Nearly 500 Girls from this Country Became Wives of Foreign Noblemen, and of These More Than 200 Have Been Divorced or Live Apart

Altogether there are 29 living American princesses, 6 American duchesses, 12 American baronesses, 30 American countesses, 14 American marquises, 18 American viscountesses, 82 American wives of barons, and more than 200 American wives of knights, chevaliers, and other small fry of the European aristocracy.

This makes nearly 500 American wives of foreign noblemen. Of the 290, more than 100 have been divorced from their husbands to live apart, says the Baltimore Sun.

It is unfair, however, to say that the foreigner of title is always a bad husband. This is certainly not true. As a matter of fact, it often happens that when an international marriage ends in a smash-up the wife is to blame. The sort of American girl who goes hunting for a title is not always the sort of girl who makes a good wife.

Many foreign princes are good husbands. The number of international hands and wives who get on fairly amicably, indeed, is far greater than most persons think.

Usually, it may be noted, it is the poor prince married to an American of no great wealth that makes the best husband. A swollen bank account on either side seems to make for trouble.

Happily Married Princesses.

Princess Cantacuzene, who married Gen. Fred Grant's daughter, is not rich; neither is he poor. He is what might be called a well-to-do gentleman farmer, and his estate in Russia his American princess is able to lead a thoroughly happy life.

The case of Miss Hazel Singer, now Princess Gliska, living quietly on a Roumanian estate, is similar.

Among the women of an older generation who have become princesses, there are a few whose lives have been very happy. There is Miss Elizabeth Field, now Princess Brancaccio, a dear friend of the lady in waiting to the Dowager Queen of Italy; there is the Countess of Waldersee, Princess von Noer in her own right. There is Princess Salm Salin, who was Miss Jeanette May, her husband fought in the Union army in the '60's; she herself took part in three wars in connection with the Red Cross Society.

There is the Dowager Princess of Lynar, who was Miss Caroline Carson, and whose son has just been appointed third secretary of the German Embassy in Washington, and the Dowager Princess of Poggio-Suasa, whose husband was several times mayor of Rome.

In the list of American princesses must be placed the Princess of Cent-Civovaro, who was Miss Eleanor Lorillard Spencer, of New York, when in 1850 the last of the Cenci led her to the altar. She has been a warm friend of and done of honor to the Dowager Queen Margherita of Italy for a long time, and she lives in the stately splendor of the Cenci Palace in Rome.

But she has borne her husband only a daughter, and when the present princess dies with him ends the famous and ancient family whose most celebrated member was Beatrice Cenci, immortalized by Guido Reni's painting, and whose tragic story inspired Shelley's play.

Other American princesses ready come to mind. There is, for instance, the Princess Poniatowski, who was Miss Elizabeth Helen Sperry, of Stockton, Cal. The prince is in the Russian army, but Parisian by birth and breeding.

There is another American Princess Poniatowski. She was Miss Catherine Goddard, of New York. She married Prince Charles Poniatowski April 2, 1880, and lives in Italy. The prince was very fond of hunting big game in his North-west. He visited this country frequently for this purpose, but a few years ago, while about to start out on another hunting expedition, he was stricken by a fatal illness and died in New York City.

The Princess Belloselsky was Miss Susan Whittey, of Boston, daughter of Gen. Charles A. Whittey. She was married to the prince in Paris in 1875, and has lived in Russia ever since at the Palace Belloselsky, on an island in the river at St. Petersburg, which has been owned by the family for many centuries.

Another Russian princess is the Princess Nicholas Engeltcheff, who was Miss Evelyn Partridge, of Chicago, a famous beauty and belle. She was married to the prince in Chicago, and the prince has decided to become an American citizen. He was formerly of the Imperial Guards of St. Petersburg.

The Princess Francis Auerberg was Miss Hazard, of Shrewsbury Manor, N. J. She was married in June, 1876. Her husband, an Austrian of noble lineage, is studying medicine in this country.

The Princess Camperelle was Miss Mary Binney, daughter of John Binney, of Burlington, N. J. She was married to the prince in Burlington in 1887.

The Princess de Lynar was Miss May Parsons, of Elmhurst, Ohio. In 1871 she married the late Prince Alexander de Lynar, an officer in the German army.

There are two American princesses of Russell. Princess Emanuel was Miss Josephine Curtis, of New York. She was married in 1885 in Paris. Princess Alexander was Miss Eva Broadwood, of New York. She married in 1877.

The Princess de Susanet was Miss Field, of New York, and was married in Paris to the prince, who was an officer in the French army.

The former Princess de Chimay was Miss Clara Ward, of Detroit, who was divorced by her husband in 1897, after her elopement with Jansky Rigo, a Hungarian gypsy, known as a vaudeville.

The Princess Wrede was Miss Rothschild, of St. Louis. The house of Wrede is one of the oldest of Hanoverian nobility, and many of its members have been prominently connected with the history of the kingdom.

THE TWENTY-NINE AMERICAN PRINCESSES.

Princess Helie de Sagan (Anna Gould, of New York).
Princess Cantacuzene (Julia Dent Grant, of Washington).
Princess Gliska (Hazel Singer, of New York).
Princess Serge Belloselsky-Belozersky (Susan Whittey, of Boston).
Princess Brancaccio (Elizabeth Field, of New York).
Princess von Noer (Mary Esther Lee, of New York).
Princess Salm-Salm (Agnes Jay, of New York).
Princess Alexander de Lynar (May Parsons, of Ohio).
Princess de Poggio-Suasa.
Princess de Cent-Civovaro (Eleanor Spencer, of New York).
Princess Poniatowski (Elizabeth Sperry, of Stockton, Cal.).
Princess Charles Poniatowski (Catherine Goddard, of New York).
Princess Nicholas Engeltcheff (Evelyn Partridge, of Chicago).
Princess Francis Auerberg (Miss Hazard, of New Jersey).
Princess Paola Camperelle (Mary Binney, of New Jersey).
Princess Emmanuel Russell (Josephine Curtis, of New York).
Princess Alexander Russell (Eva Broadwood, of New York).
Princess de Susanet (Miss Field, of New York).
Princess de Chimay (Clara Ward, of Detroit).
Princess Wrede (Miss Rothschild, of St. Louis).
Princess Rosignoli (Marie Reid, of Washington).
Princess de Monaco (Alice Helme, of New Orleans).
Princess Czaykowski (Edith Collins, of New York).
Princess Colonna-Stigliano (Evelyn Bryant, of New York).
Princess von Hatzfeldt-Wildenburg (Clara Prentice, of California).
Princess de Pallencan (Winnaretta Singer, of New York).
Princess San Faustino (Mary Campbell, of New York).
Princess Albert Radziwill (Prudentia Milmo, of New York).
Princess Pierre Troubetzkoy (Amelle Rives, of Virginia).

pendent as the King of England, or the Czar of Russia, and is received by them as an equal.

Wore a Royal Crown.

The girl who became Princess of Monaco—the only American girl who ever wore a real royal crown—is the daughter of a Jewish banker in New Orleans. She was married first to the Duc de Richelieu, but he died. Then the Prince of Monaco won her. He had just had his marriage with Lady Mary Hamilton annulled.

The American princess found him a strange mixture of an ardent scientist, devoted to natural history, but a man with low ideas. It is told of him that he invited a party of men to watch his first wife swimming nude in the sea, and that, when the party was over, he also married an American girl, called him a blackguard for it.

The Princess of Monaco turned from

her royal spouse and sought consolation in the society of a Spanish singer named Lara, and the prince got a judicial separation.

So ended Alice Helme's dream of being a princess.

Edith Collins, the lovely daughter of Clarence Lyman Collins, of New York, and a great-granddaughter of Commodore "Fanny" Collins, was married to the Turkish diplomatic service. Rumor was soon busy. Her husband got into trouble and was arrested and dismissed from the service. She was then married to the Turkish diplomat, and she has been doing her best to persuade the Pope to declare her marriage with Col. Parkhurst null and void, but the holy father has refused to do so. The Turkish diplomat, in Italy, is that of a wife who is not a wife, and the strict Roman aristocracy cannot know her.

When Helen Morton, the daughter of ex-Gov. Levi F. Morton, became the wife of Count de Talleyrand-Perigord, Duc de Valencay, the alliance was one of the most brilliant in international records. Here was a young woman, well known in French life, who was intimate and without illusion. Yet she sacrificed the title for which she had paid so dearly to escape the ill treatment and neglect of the husband who made it a crown of sorrow.

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Europe. Mrs. Mackay did her best to prevent the match. Within six months the California princess was disenchanted; she found her husband preferred gambling and drinking to staying at home with her. He constantly demanded money; he sold her jewels and her wedding presents and finally forced her to appeal to her mother for money. She stood this misery for ten years, then sued for a separation and fled to America with her three children. Since then she has lived with her mother in London.

At the time of her daughter Blanca's wedding to Count Jules de Bonvouloir, a year ago, Mrs. Mackay tried to bring about a reconciliation, but it was useless. The prince was at the wedding to give away his daughter, and he gave her some fine black pearls, but he was not even invited to the entertainment and fete that preceded the ceremony.

A Sorry Husband.

Whether Clara Prentice, the adopted daughter of Collis P. Huntington, has been happy with her prince, Francis von Hatzfeldt-Wildenburg, only her most intimate friends can surmise. If she has been unhappy she has always been too proud to give any sign of it, but there are many people who say it would be impossible for any good woman to be happy with a man like him.

Before their marriage he was notorious as a gambler and had been estranged in the society of Berlin, Vienna, and Paris. His debts were enormous, but C. P. Huntington paid them, and since his marriage he has been behaving himself much better.

Miss Winnaretta Singer made rather a tragedy of it in marrying the Marquis de Scey-Montbellard, and after he divorced her she sought consolation with the Prince Edmond de Polignac.

Friends of the former Miss Marie Reid, of Washington, are now wondering how long it will take to disengage her with the life of a princess in Rome, for her marriage to Prince Rosignoli is not recognized by the church. She has been divorced by Col. Frederick H. Parkhurst, of Maine. She has been doing her best to persuade the Pope to declare her marriage with Col. Parkhurst null and void, but the holy father has refused to do so. The Turkish diplomat, in Italy, is that of a wife who is not a wife, and the strict Roman aristocracy cannot know her.

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General Washington a Descendant of King Edward I, of England

English Curate Presents Evidence to Show First President of the United States Was a Direct Descendant of the British Ruler—Records Found.

By RUDOLPH DE ZAPP.

That George Washington, whose birthday anniversary will be observed universally tomorrow, was the direct descendant of King Edward I, is the announcement of an English genealogist, who, for some time past, has been investigating the ancestry of the Washington family in a branch about which hitherto little or nothing has been known.

The Rev. Frederick W. Ragg, a university graduate and a fellow of the Royal Historical Society, undertook the investigation of a branch of the Washington ancestry purely out of antiquarian interest. That the line of genealogy ascended to royalty was as great a surprise to him as it was to the two nations interested.

The liberator of the American colonies should have sprung from an English monarch carries the serpent's tooth into the third and fourth generations.

Mr. Ragg has for several years been interested in the restoration of the little parish church of St. Leonard, at Aston-le-Walls, in Northamptonshire. But his interest included other items as well, notably the crumbling tombstones of the Washingtons in the churchyard and the parish register in which the births, deaths, and marriages of the family were recorded for generations.

The genealogy of the male Washington, father to son to grandson, has long been known.

It had hitherto occurred to no one to trace the ancestry of a certain Margaret Butler, the wife of Laurence Washington, of Sulgrave, who died in 1616, the same year as Shakespeare's Margaret Butler was the great-great-grandmother

of Gen. George Washington. She was the great-granddaughter of Sir John Sutton, of Dudley, owner of Aston-le-Walls. From the burial of Sir John Sutton, who died in 1487, the line of ancestry is clear through the Tiptofts and Charltons, up to Thomas Holland, Earl of Kent, and his grandfather, Edmund of Woodstock, Earl of Kent, the son of Edward I, King of England, and Margaret, daughter of Philip III, of France.

One reason why this thread of the Washington ancestry has never before been known is probably the circumstance that there have been two Margaret Butlers living in Aston-le-Walls at about the same period. An entry in the Aston-le-Walls parish register reads: "Anne Reginald Elizabeth Tricessimo. Nuptie facta sunt inter Laurencium Washington, genit. Margaret Butler tercio die Augusti anno predicti."

The date of his marriage was 1588. The confusion between this Margaret Butler (if, indeed, it was known that there were two persons of that name) led to a neglect of that branch of the family, with the result that some centuries ago have passed since the death of the first representative of the United States before the discovery that he came of royal lineage.

Mr. Ragg, with whom rests the credit of this surprising discovery, is a man of scholarly tastes with enthusiasm for the architecture of the English parish churches. In order to repair the nave and choir of a church in the south of England, of which he was rector, he learned the mason's trade and stonemasonry and set about the work himself.

When he moved to Aston-le-Walls, he was instantly struck by the fine architecture of the little church which was being allowed to go to ruin. The parish registers of 170 persons, and as most of these are tenant farmers and laborers no funds could be raised for the repairs. He regarded the church as especially worthy of preservation on account of its identification with the Washingtons.

A more sophisticated man would perhaps have appealed to America. Mr. Ragg was in the habit of doing things himself. And yet while busily occupied in endeavoring to raise funds for the repairs, inventing a new kind of mortar and superintending the construction of the church as it went forward, he found time to go into the neglected branch of

friendship by playing a fiddle, an accomplishment acquired by practicing three hours a day for twelve years.

John Quincy Adams was another sportsman. He not only was fond of horse races, but actually ran one of his own horses in the name of his private secretary. The horse was beaten by Stoughton's Langford, much to the disappointment of Mr. Adams's friends, who had backed his entry heavily. So sure were the President's friends of success that, pending his return from the races, a panel bearing the name of his entry was placed with flowers and hung on the White House wall.

Adams an Expert Swimmer.

Arboriculture was another dabb of Mr. Adams and he planted many trees in the White House grounds. President Adams was an expert swimmer and often repaired to the Potomac to indulge in that exercise. On one occasion, having gone into the river some distance from Washington, the boat in which he had deposited his clothes floated away and the President of the United States had to wait on the bank for three hours in a state of nature undressed while a servant went to the White House for clothing wherewith his excellency might return to civilization.

Andrew Jackson was a "dead game sport" and was in for anything from a duel to a cock fight. He bred game cocks and fought them with as much zest as the Cubans or Mexicans. He once waged 60 acres of land on one of his game cocks and won. Ben. Perley Poore in his reminiscences tells the story of Jackson's bringing some of his fowls from the Hermitage in Tennessee to fight with some Washington chickens.

On the day appointed Jackson and his friends rode out the Bladensburg road to the place agreed upon, but when the Hermitage cocks were put in the pit they refused to fight. The long journey by stage from Tennessee and the confinement in boxes had taken all the fight out of them. Jackson also was a horse racer and breeder, and it was he who brought to Tennessee the famous Truett, whose strain still lives in that State. Mr. Lincoln at play! To be sure. The great man was not above playing with the boys and girls of the White House. He was fond of the game of cards and was often seen at the card table with the President's children.

Grant a Genuine Sportsman.

The "Father of his Country" was a genuine sportsman. Jefferson spoke of Washington as "the best horseman of his age and the most graceful figure that could be seen on horseback. Washington loved horses and dogs with the heartiest sportsman of them all. He had a great fondness for staking deer with George Mason on the broad forest tracts round Gunston Hall, and liked often to take gun or rod after lesser game when the days fell dull.

But best of all he loved a horse's back and the hard ride for hours together after fox and hounds across a country that was only for those who dared. His own mounts could nowhere be bettered in Virginia. There was the blood of Arab in his Magnolia and as good hunting blood was to be found in the colony in his Blueskin, and Ajax, Vaillant, and Chinkling. His hounds he bred "so few and so good," as he said in a letter to a friend, "that they always kept pace together in the field." A cry more true than that of the "blue blood" of the aristocracy. After the Revolution the huntsman sat with the old ease upon his fiery Blueskin-Will Lee, on Chinkling, closely following.

As an all round athlete Washington seems to have been a match even for the present occupant of the Presidential chair. One of his favorite sports was the running high jump over a rope, a test of agility he indulged in even while commander-in-chief of the colonial armies. If two posts with peg holes were not at hand he tied one end of the rope to a tree and had a negro boy hold the other end and draw it taut. It is recorded that he could easily clear the rope held breast high.

Thomas Jefferson also was a lover of good horses and often indulged in the hard riding and exciting sport of fox hunting. He was most particular about the care of his horses, and when his groom brought up a mare for his morning ride Jefferson would pass his handkerchief over the horse's coat. If a speck of dirt appeared on the handkerchief, back went the horse to be groomed again. Jefferson was a scholar and his classical tastes were shown by the names of some of his horses—Caractacus, Arturus, Targuin, and Coler.

Yet he was far from scorning his native tongue, and his favorite saddle horse was Eagle. Part of the "Jeffersonian simplicity" so often alluded to, was his action in riding in the saddle to the Capitol for his inauguration and tethering his horse, instead of driving up in state. The horse which he rode on that occasion was named Wildair. Jefferson also amused himself and entertained his

the Washington genealogy, of which he writes to friends on this side as follows: "I hunted up the descendants of these ancestors of the Washingtons, and the result will, I think be surprising. It ought to delight all Americans." Aside from a brief reference to the obstacles and delays which beset the student of genealogy this is the only record of the work of the ancestral descent which involved weeks of patient research and investigation.

There were other European Washingtons of noble lineage—Baron Maximilian Washington, who died a few years ago at an advanced age at Graz, Austria, as a member of the Austrian House of Lords and chamberlain to Emperor Francis Joseph, traced his descent from that same north of England family from which our own George Washington was descended.

The baron, who was succeeded in honors and estates by his son George, a retired captain in the Austrian army, bore the same arms as his illustrious namesake in this country, a shield with three stars and two stripes. Baron George Washington and the baroness, by birth, a Countess Weierheim, paid their first visit to this country a few years ago. He is the last surviving representative of the German branch of the historic house of Washington, which branch will become extinct at his death, since he has no children.

Besides the Washington blood in his veins, he has that of the reigning house of Oldenburg, for his father, the late Baron Maximilian Washington, who spent many years at the grand ducal court of Oldenburg, was the son of a minor Duke of Oldenburg, eventually contracted a morganatic marriage with his pupil's half-sister, Duchess Frederica of Oldenburg, sister of Queen Augusta of Prussia. The marriage was a disgraceful one, and after their marriage they settled at Pola, Austria, near Graz, and both became imbued with such an amount of enthusiasm for everything American that they decided to leave the court of George to their only son, who is a man of about fifty-two years of age, and cavalry officer on the retired list of the Austrian army.

The American Washingtons, as every one knows, are descended from that John Washington, who, being concerned in an attempt to overthrow Oliver Cromwell